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## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

COMMITTEES:  
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SMALL BUSINESS

April 13, 2012

The Honorable Joseph I. Lieberman  
Chairman  
Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan M. Collins  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs  
344 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Lieberman and Ranking Member Collins:

I agree with the President's sentiments at the signing ceremony of the Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act (STOCK Act) that more must be done to regain the trust of the American people in their government. Thanks to your support and effort the STOCK Act became law.

However, with Tax Day fast approaching I find it deeply disturbing that federal employees, members of Congress and employees of Congress owe over a billion dollars in delinquent tax debt. The amount owed by federal employees has increased by 72% since 2004. As the average American family is sacrificing to pay their taxes, I find it outrageous that people who rely on taxpayers for their generous salaries and benefits - federal employees, members of Congress and congressional staff - are thumbing their nose at them by neglecting to pay their own taxes.

That is why I have introduced the Congressional and Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2012 (S. 2195). I strongly urge you to hold a hearing in order to shed light on this disgraceful activity. I also request that this legislation be considered at the first business meeting after the hearing. Serving our country is a privilege, which comes with the responsibility to play by the same rules as everyone else. It is no wonder Congress' approval rating is at 12%. We must set an example that those who write and enforce our nation's tax laws also obey them.

Sincerely,



Scott P. Brown  
United States Senator